

**Amendments to the Claims:**

**CLAIMS**

1.     **(Amended)** A method for securely collecting information from a user, comprising:  
      (a) delivering a medical test device to a patient;  
      (b) retrieving test data from the test device after use by a patient; and  
      (c) distributing test data to authorized recipient.
2.     **(Amended)** The method of claim 1 wherein the test device has a data collector  
comprised of a ~~is~~ a hardware device.
3.     **(Amended)** The method of claim 1 wherein said step (b) comprises retrieving ~~the~~ a  
data collector from the test device and extracting the data.
4.     **(Amended)** The method of claim 1 wherein said step (b) comprises extracting the  
data before retrieving ~~a~~ the data collector from the test device.
5.     **(Original)** The method of claim 1 wherein said step (a) comprises:  
      (a1) accepting a request to ship a test device from a requestor; and  
      (a2) communicating with a logistics system directing shipment of the device to the  
      patient.
6.     **(Original)** The method of claim 5 wherein said step (a1) comprises the sub-steps of:  
authorizing the requestor to make the request; and accepting the request.
7.     **(Amended)** The method of claim 1 wherein said step (a) includes the sub-step of:  
      providing an identification number for the medical test device; and  
      recording the identification number prior to transmitting the test device to the patient.
8.     **(Original)** The method of claim 1 wherein said step (a) comprises:  
      (a1) authorizing a requestor to make a request to transmit the test device to the  
      patient;  
      (a2) accepting a request from the requestor to transmit the test device to the patient;  
      (a3) recording a unique identification number for the test device; and

(a4) communicating with a logistics system to transport the device to the patient.

9. **(Original)** The method of claim 1 further including the step of:

(d) tracking the time following completion of said step (a) and initiating step (b) within a fixed time period.

10. **(Original)** The method of claim 4 wherein at least a portion of said step (a) is performed via a computer over a communications network.

11. **(Original)** The method of claim 10 wherein said communications network includes a modem.

12. **(Original)** The method of claim 10 wherein said communications network is a global computer communications network.

13. **(Original)** The method of claim 11 wherein said communications network is a wireless link.

14. **(Original)** The method of claim 1 wherein said step (c) is performed over a series of at least one private and at least one public network.

15. **(Original)** The method of claim 1 wherein said step (c) comprises:

(c1) determining, based on input from the patient, said authorized recipient; and

(c2) verifying a recipient's authorization to receive data before distributing said data.

16. **(Original)** The method of claim 1 wherein said step (c) is performed using secure communications.

17. **(Original)** The method of claim 4 wherein said step (b) is performed using secure communications.

18. **(Original)** The method of claim 1 wherein step (a) comprises the sub-steps of:

(a1) receiving a request from a first physician for a medical test, subject to verification by an authorized physician; and

(a2) receiving authorization from the authorized physician.

19. **(Amended)** The method of claim 18 wherein said step (c) comprises:

(c1) receiving authorization from the patient for the first physician to receive distributions of patient's data; and

(c2) distributing the patient's data to the first referring physician.

20. **(Amended)** A method for collecting data, comprising:

(a) providing a testing apparatus to a patient in response to a request for the testing apparatus;

(b) administering a medical test to the patient with the testing apparatus; providing a medical test to a patient;

(c)(b) collecting the testing apparatus from the patient user once the patient user completes testing; and

(d)(e) distributing test information from the testing apparatus to authorized recipients.

21. **(Original)** The method of claim 20 wherein said step (a) comprises:

(a1) accepting a request to ship a test device from a requestor; and

(a2) communicating with a logistics system directing shipment of the device to the patient.

22. **(Amended)** The method of claim 20 ~~20~~ **21** wherein said step (a1) comprises the sub-steps of: authorizing the requestor to make the request; and accepting the request.

23. **(Amended)** The method of claim 20 wherein said step (a) includes the sub-step of: providing an identification number for the medical test device; and recording the identification number prior to transmitting the test device to the end user.

24. **(Original)** The method of claim 20 wherein said step (a) comprises:

(a1) authorizing a requestor to make a request to transmit the test device to the patient;

(a2) accepting a request from the requestor to transmit the test device to the patient;

(a3) recording a unique identification number for the test device; and

(a4) communicating with a logistics system to transport the device to the patient.

25. **(Amended)** The method of claim 20 further including the step of:

~~(e)~~ tracking the time following completion of said step (a) and initiating step (b) within a fixed time period.

26. **(Original)** The method of claim 20 wherein said step (a) is performed via a computer over a communications network.

27. **(Original)** The method of claim 26 wherein said communications network is a modem.

28. **(Original)** The method of claim 26 wherein said communications network is a global computer communications network.

29. **(Amended)** The method of claim ~~26~~ 28 wherein said communications network is a wireless link.

30. **(Amended)** The method of claim 20 wherein said step ~~(e)~~ (d) is performed over a series of at least one private and one public network.

31. **(Amended)** The method of claim 20 wherein said step ~~(e)~~ (d) comprises:

(d1)~~(e1)~~ determining, based on input from the patient, said authorized recipient; and

(d2)~~(e2)~~ verifying a recipient's authorization to receive data before distributing said data.

32. **(Amended)** The method of claim 20 wherein said step ~~(e)~~ (d) is performed using secure communications.

33.     **(Original)** The method of claim **20** wherein said step (a) is performed using secure communications.
34.     **(Original)** The method of claim **20** wherein step (a) comprises the sub-steps of:  
          (a1) receiving a request from a referring physician for a medical test, subject to verification by an authorized physician; and  
          (a2) receiving authorization from the authorized physician.
35.     **(Amended)** The method of claim **34** wherein said step ~~(e)~~ (d) comprises:  
          ~~(d1)~~ (e1) receiving authorization from the patient for the referring physician to receive distributions of patient's data; and  
          ~~(d2)~~ (e2) distributing the patient's data to referring physician.
36.     **(Original)** A method for conducting a medical test for an authorized physician, comprising:  
          (a) collecting an order for a device;  
          (b) transmitting a medical test device to a user;  
          (c) extracting test results from the test device;  
          (d) retrieving the test device from the user subsequent to the user inputting test results into the device; and  
          (e) distributing test results to authorized recipients.
37.     **(Original)** The method of claim **36** wherein said steps are performed sequentially.
38.     **(Original)** The method of claim **36** wherein said step (a) is performed using an information server coupled to a public network.
39.     **(Original)** The method of claim **36** wherein said step (a) comprises:  
          (a1) accepting a request to ship a medical test device from the physician; and  
          (a2) communicating with a shipper directing shipment to the patient.

40.     **(Original)** The method of claim **39** wherein said step (a1) comprises the sub-steps of: verifying the physician is authorized to make the request; and accepting the request.

41.     **(Original)** A system for providing a test system to a patient, comprising: an interface server including an ordering interface coupled to a communications network accessible by a plurality of computers; a database server coupled to the interface server; a logistics system transmitting a medical test to a patient at the direction of a physician accessing the ordering system via the interface server and retrieving the test from the patient upon completion of the test; and a data transfer system, collecting test results from the medical test and distributing results via a secure mechanism to an authorized recipient.

42.     **(Original)** The system of claim **41** wherein the interface server includes an order authorization application.

43.     **(Original)** The system of claim **42** wherein the authorization application includes at least a consumer access level, a patient access level, a member access level and a physician access level.

44.     **(Original)** The system of claim **41** wherein the database server includes a data structure including a physician record data structure, a manufacturing record database, a client record database and a device record data structure.

45.     **(Original)** The system of claim **41** further including a journaling application transferring orders to the logistics system.

46.     **(Original)** The system of claim **41** further including an inventory inquiry application communicating with the logistics system.

47.     **(Original)** The system of claim **41** wherein the logistics system includes an interface application to a commercial shipper.

48.     **(Original)** The system of claim **41** further including a device return verification application, communicating with the logistics system.
49.     **(Original)** The system of claim **41** further including a data extraction application.
50.     **(Original)** The system of claim **41** further including a data report generator.
51.     **(Original)** A method for conducting a medical test for an authorized physician, comprising:
- (a) collecting an order for a device input via a computer and received via a communications network;
  - (b) transmitting a medical test device to a patient at a patient defined location;
  - (c) extracting test results from the test device;
  - (d) retrieving the test device from the patient subsequent to the user inputting test results into the device; and
  - (e) distributing test results to authorized recipients via a secure connection to said communications network.
52.     **(Original)** The method of claim **51** wherein said steps (c) and (d) are performed sequentially.
53.     **(Original)** The method of claim **51** wherein said step (d) is performed prior to said step (c).
54.     **(Original)** The method of claim **51** wherein said step (c) is performed via said network.
55.     **(Original)** The method of claim **51** wherein said step (c) is performed via a modem.
56.     **(Original)** The method of claim **51** wherein said step (c) is performed via a wireless communications link.

57.     **(Original)** The method of claim **51** wherein said communications network is at least partially a public network and said steps (a) and (c) are performed via a secure link through said network.

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